Sl. No.	Country Name
60.	PHILIPPINES
61.	POLAND
62.	PORTUGAL
63.	QATAR
64.	ROMANIA
65.	RUSSIA
66.	SAUDI ARABIA
67.	SCOTLAND
68.	SEYCHELLES
69.	SINGAPORE
70.	SLOVENIA
71.	SOUTH AFRICA
72.	SPAIN
73.	SRI LANKA
74.	SWEDEN
75.	SWITZERLAND
76.	TAIWAN
77.	THAILAND
78.	TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
79.	TURKEY
80.	UGANDA
81.	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
82.	UNITED KINGDOM
83.	UNITED REP OF TANZANIA
84.	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
85.	VENEZUELA
86.	VIETNAM
87.	WEST INDIES
88.	YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC
89.	ZAMBIA
90.	ZIMBABWE

Proposal to Introduce E-check

567. SHRI BJ. PANDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to introduce E-check, the internet version of the basic banking instrument, the cheque;

(b) if so, by when and the cities identified, so far;

(c) the efforts made for expanding, stabilizing and standardizing E-commerce in the country;

(d) what are the other technologies proposed *to* be brought about into the country to make E-commerce more comfortable for let-users; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ;SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) There is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government.

(c) Various measures taken in this regard are given below:—

(i) Information Technology Act, 2000 has been enacted by the Parliament. This Act will provide legal recognition for transactions carried out by means of electronic data inter-change and other means of electronics communication, commonly referred to as electronic commerce.

(ii) Internet Service Providers' Policy (ISP) has been implemented.

(iii) ISPs are allowed to set up International Gateways independent of VSNL. These ISPs are also, allowed to hire international bandwidth on foreign satellite.

(iv) The development of software in Indian Languages and promotion of content development in Indian languages, A number of packages in this regard are available in the market.

(v) To bring down the cost of the computers, Government in the last Budget Session of *the* Parliament has also reduced the duty on finished computer system from 20% to 15% and on key component of computers from 5% to 0%.

(vi) Computer system have been made freely importable vide EXIM Policy 1997-2000 applicable from 1.4.1999.

(vii) The Ministry of Information Technology has project to develop the software and demonstrate *th"* E-commerce for water bill payments.

(viii) Electronic Data Interchange Network

message exchange for trade with special reference to international trade between Customs, Ports, Airports and Directorate of Foreign Trade.

(ix) International messaging standards based on UN/ED IFACT for transacting electronic messages have been adopted within the country.

Adequate care is being taken to see that open standards wherever possible are followed and implemented.

(d) and (e) The Ministry of Information Technology, has set up "Centre of Excellence for E-commerce" at CMC Hyderabad to develop and integrate various technologies for E-commerce. These include payment systems like E-cash, Credit Cards and security products such as Firewall and Network, Intruder Detection System. Public Key Infrastructure Technology is also being developed. The center is also examining the use of Technologies like using smart cards and mobile telephones for E-commerce application.

The Centre is interacting with other organisations such as Institute for Development & Research in Banking Technology, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research and Electronic Research and Development Centre of India so that various E-commerce initiatives work as complimentary to each other.

Share of IT Business

568. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) what share of IT business in the world today is captured by India;

(b) how much of the international IT market today is captured by Indians all over the world today;

(c) whether Government have any plan to promote Indians in information technology business abroad; and

(d) by when and what are the plans?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY